Career & Technical Education Student Organizations
"Unite to Read"
Resource Guide

Project Description:

"Unite to Read" is a statewide project designed by Kentucky's Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) for implementation during the 2012-2013 school year. The overall goal is to have all Career and Technical Student Organizations (DECA, FBLA, FCCLA,FEA, FFA, HOSA, SKILLS USA, TSA) within a school or district work together in promoting literacy and lifelong reading. Along with the Student Technology Leadership Program (STLP) participated with the other student organizations to promote this literacy project along with other organizations that may want to help at your school. While each organization participates in community service activities, this project was the first statewide initiative to serve all schools. After a very successful fourth year of implementation, the "Unite to Read" project is beginning a fifth year of literacy activities for elementary, middle, and high school students.

Project activities will occur throughout the school year; however the "*Share a Story* " night will be hosted statewide during the month of October and November. Some schools have found that due to school calendar conflicts that another date works best for their school district. Each school or district will select one evening to sponsor a local "*Share a Story*" night. The middle and high school reading certificate program will start the beginning of school and conclude April 16th. Activities and accomplishments of the project will be reported during the year.

Participants:

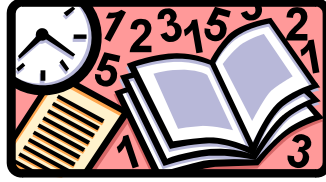Kentucky Department of Education, Branch of College and Career Readiness

Education Cabinet, Department for Workforce Investment, Office of Career & Technical Education

Kentucky Educational Television (KET) Ready Set Grow Early Childhood Initiative

50,000 Middle/high school members of the following Career & Technical Education Student Organizations (CTSO'S): FFA, Agriculture; FBLA, Future Business Leaders of America; DECA, Marketing Education; FCCLA, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America; FEA, Future Educators Association; HOSA, Health Occupations Students of America; TSA, Technology Student Association; and Skills USA

STLP, Student Technology Leadership Program

"Unite to Read"
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Project Overview:

The "Unite to Read" statewide project was designed to encourage a joint effort of all Kentucky Student Organizations within a school or district. State advisors from each student organization organized the project as a joint partnership with Kentucky Educational Television (KET). The project was developed with a Primary-3rd Grade emphasis, "Unite to Read With … Share a Story" and a Middle/High School component entitled, "Unite to Read Certificate Program." **Each participating school is encouraged to implement both phases of the project.**

Getting Started at the School or District:

1. At the beginning of the school year, a **planning meeting** is suggested for organizational purposes and uniting all student organization groups.
2. A **Project Coordinator** should be selected as a contact person for the appropriate school or district. This individual should be a chapter advisor from one of the student organization programs or the Career and Technical Education Coordinator. Any communication or correspondence pertaining to this joint effort will be directed to this individual.
3. Each school will need to complete a **School Participation form,ONLINE** by September 3rd at the following web link
   KDE Website-
   http://www.education.ky.gov/kde/instructional+resources/career+and+technical+education/student+organizations/unite+to+read.htm
   FileMaker System-http://otl.education.ky.gov/fmi/iwp/cgi?-db=Unite_To_Read&-loadframes

Important Dates:

August	Organize committees to develop a program plan.
	Select a project coordinator.
	Introduce Reading Certificate Program
September 3	School Participation Form due to Reeca Carver
September	Launch a publicity campaign for the "Share a Story" night and the "Reading Certificate Program."
October 1	Request for bookmarks due to Reeca Carver
October or November	"Share a Story" Month
December 3	Submit the online Program Evaluation for the "Share a Story" night
April 16	Certificate program for middle and high school students ends.
	Submit Certificate of Achievement Form to Reeca Carver
May 1	Reading Certificates will be mailed from Frankfort to Project Coordinator.

Primary – 3rd Grade
"Unite to Read with...
Share a Story"

Primary – 3rd Grade: "Unite to Read with…Share a Story"

- Every participating school or district will conduct a "Share a Story" program one night during the month of October/November. Some schools have found that another date works best with their school calendar. The important thing is that every school participates.

- All student organizations from a local high school/district and area technology center will join together to plan, organize, and participate in the event.

- The format of the event will follow the "KET Ready, Set Grow Learning Triangle" curriculum. The purpose of the activity is to demonstrate a variety of ways to read a book. Such as listening to someone read the story, watching it on video, and doing a project that relates to the story.

- The project should be hosted at an elementary school, library, or location of choice. If there are multiple elementary schools within a district, the project committee should select one elementary school for the project. If your district is large and there is a large membership in your student organizations, you could plan the activity for multiple schools. This project promotes literacy with elementary children, so it is important to serve as many as possible.

- This year's selected book: "Caps for Sale", by Esphyr Slobodkina continues to support the goal of promoting literacy and lifelong reading. This book provides you with an opportunity to make a connection to topics such as practical living core content, financial literacy and entrepreneurship.

To Order the Share a Story Night Book:

● 2012-13 Book – <u>Caps for Sale</u> by Esphyr Slobodkina

Publisher: Scholastic Inc.
       Phone Number – 1-800-724-6527 (Option 3)

   ISBN# 978-0-739-12061-6

Retail Price - $6.95
      30% discount over $25.00 -$2999.00
      40% discount over $3000

   **If you are a Literacy Partner with Scholastic you can receive the books for $2.99 and get free shipping. Please contact Reeca Carver for the literacy partner application.

ReadySetGrow

KET

Organizing "Share a Story" Night Activities:

- The Share a Story night activity will need to be organized in a large room such as a gym or cafeteria. Each student organization will be responsible for one of the activity booths. Suggested activities might be:

>*Community or School Leader reading the book
>*Art Wall where students can draw pictures of what they learned from the book
>*A puppet show depicting the story of the book.
>* Hat Walk like a cake walk
>* Book Mark Station
>* Face Painting
>* HatToss (corn hole)

- "Unite to Read" bags may be distributed at a parent's booth. **Contact local curriculum consultants or instructional supervisors for additional ideas to add to the parent packet.**

- Project committees should be organized having representation from all student organizations. A committee might be composed of a representative from each organization or an organization might be responsible for a certain committee. Suggested committees would be: publicity, community involvement, parent involvement, program planning, and finance and budget.

- This project is a wonderful opportunity to get local publicity for all student organizations. This activity could be publicized in your local and
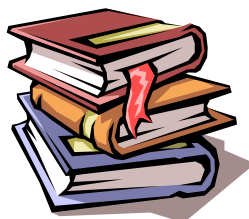
school newspaper. If you contact any local business sponsors, let them know the kind of publicity they will receive.

- The publicity committee should develop a plan for inviting parents and children to the "Share a Story" night. Contact should be made with the local elementary school principal to discuss the proper protocol for publicizing this event. Ask about presenting to the local Board of Education. Their meetings are highly publicized in local papers. You might also plan the activity in conjunction with the elementary school's PTO meeting. This could help in getting a large attendance.

- A "Unite to Read" logo has been designed and was used on t-shirts during several events. Several schools received donations from businesses and designed shirts for all the student organization students to wear at the "Share a Story" night. Local business sponsor names were placed on the back. If you would like to have access to the logo to use for local t-shirts or any other promotional activity, please contact Reeca Carver (reeca.carver@education.ky.gov) or you may download the logo from any student organization website.

- Submit the **Project Evaluation Online** by December 15th or at the conclusion of your activity.

Middle/High School Focus "Unite to Read" Certificate Program

Middle/High School "Unite to Read" Reading Certificate Program
The "Unite to Read" Reading Certificate Program was designed to promote a reading awareness for middle and high school students. By integrating literacy assignments and activities in our Career & Technical Education classrooms and our student organization activities, students are encourage to increase their literacy skills.

Reading Certificate Program
- The certificate program is designed to recognize success when students complete the following number of books:
- Gold Seal Certificate – 25 books
- Silver Seal Certificate – 20 books
- Bronze Seal Certificate – 15 books

- At the beginning of the project, distribute the **Student/Parent Contract** to all interested participants. The contract indicates the goal of the student and the commitment of the parent to support the student's goal.

- All students who participate in the reading certificate program should receive a bookmark. If you would like the bookmarks to distribute to the

students, please contact Reeca Carver (reeca.carver@education.ky.gov), by October 1 with the amount needed.

- **Record of Completion** to record each book read by the student. This form is for school use only, but might be helpful in tracking the student's progress. It requires an initial by the guardian for each book completed as well as a teacher's signature at the completion of the project.

A **Certificate of Achievement** record is to be completed by listing all students participating in the "Unite to Read" Project. Please indicate if they achieved gold, silver, or bronze status. Submit the form by April 16th to Reeca Carver, Division of Career and Technical Education. Certificates will be returned to the school contact person. The certificates may be distributed to students during a recognition event such as awards night or a student organization end-of-year banquet.

-Reading choices may include short stories, newspaper or magazines, technical manuals or other printed material relevant to course or career goals.

- High Schools That Work (HSTW) recommend that students read 100 pages of technical text to receive credit for one book. Schools should use this as a guide when establishing additional reading guidelines.

- Encourage in-class reading in technical courses as well as academic courses.

- Develop a plan to assist students in planning their reading and encourage a variety of material choices.

-Provide a grade level reading list developed by a team of professionals (teachers, curriculum specialists, instructional supervisors). Include a variety of resources- novels, short stories, newspapers, magazines, and technical manuals.

- Develop a contract with students to determine rewards for success.

Student Organization Suggested Activities:
- Dinner and a book – discuss a book and then have dinner.
- Morning Breakfast Club- discuss a book and have muffins or fruit.
- Set up a competition among student organizations and see what organization reads the most books. Plan a social activity at the end of the campaign.
- Develop a "Unite to Read" website and post updates on project activities and club activities, and book reviews.
- Create a literacy scavenger hunt at the end of one of your meetings.
- Host a movie night where novel-based movies are shown at school.
- Ask a local theatre to sponsor a movie night for "Unite to Read" participants.

Plan School and Local Community Activities:
- Sponsor a Community Readers' Day. Invite community leaders and regional celebrities to the school to share their favorite selections during class time or a club activity.
- Sponsor a community book fair.
- Create a "Unite to Read" Bulletin Board depicting the reading certificate program and charting students' success.
- Provide "book bucks" for every page read. Students turn in a Library Record Card – small, green, know as a "green slip" which has title, author, date, pages, and adult signature (not teacher, as this is for at home reading). You can host an auction at the end of the school year to spend the book bucks or you can have a "Book Buck Store" stocked with simple and more elaborate prizes for "purchase" for ongoing reward. You could also have a monthly drawing for free books for all who turn in their record slips. This opportunity would be a great way to involve business partners in helping support this project.
- Host a "Unite to Read" poster contest. An appropriate prize from the school bookstore might be the reward.
- Organize a student book club and use your school's TV access channel to publicize activities.
- Organize a book exchange. Have students donate books, tapes, or magazines from home. Students take home one item for every item contributed.

- Sponsor a reading night at the local public library. Students can discuss books they are currently reading, and/or the librarian can discuss new books and authors of interest to teens.
- Sponsor a T.L.T. or Totally Literate Tuesday. Every Tuesday everyone in class stops and reads for 20 minutes.

Use your own imagination and create some exciting activities to increase student reading. If at any time you need assistance, please contact your student organization state advisor for assistance.